

Animal Control Advisory Board
Wednesday, March 4, 2020

1. Call to Order

Dr. Pat Richardson, Citizen Member called the meeting to order at 18:00.

2. Roll Call

Members Present:

Drema Ballengee-Grunst, Animal Welfare Representative
Rita Weaver, Animal Welfare Representative
Melissa Carnes, Vice-Chairperson of Animal Control Advisory Board, Animal Welfare Representative
Melinda Brown, Secretary of Animal Control Advisory Board, Animal Welfare Representative
Dr David Langford, Retired Veterinarian
Susan Morris, Environmental Health Division
Dr Pat Richardson, Chairperson of Animal Control Advisory Board, Citizen Member

Member Absent:

Aubrey Briggs, Animal Welfare Representative

3. PRESENTATION(S)

A. Review & Approve Minutes

I move to approve the minutes of the meeting as presented from January 30, 2020 and February 11, 2020.

Motion by Melinda Brown, second by Dr David Langford.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Drema Ballengee-Grunst, Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Dr David Langford, Susan Morris, Dr Pat Richardson

B. St. Mary's County & State Open Meetings Acts

Neil Murphy, Deputy County Attorney discussed both the St. Mary's County & The State of Maryland Open Meetings Acts. His discussion included the differences in both Acts and which act would be followed in certain situations. Neil Murphy also discussed that there was no violation in the Alleged Violation of the St. Mary's Open Meeting Act and the Maryland Open Meetings Act at the January 30, 2020 Meeting of the Animal Control Advisory Board.

C. Response to Board Questions

Neil Murphy, Deputy County Attorney answered six (6) questions that the Animal Control Advisory Board requested legal to respond to.

D. Shelter Update

John Deatruck, Director of Public Works & Transportation, gave an update on the new Animal Control Shelter. Mr. Deatruck stated that they were in the very early stages of the project, but the surveyors have been on site. DPW&T are in the process of hiring an owner's representative who will be a construction manager. The owner's rep will produce a monthly report with their invoice. The Animal Control Advisory Board has requested that the monthly reports be bought back to the board. There were also several suggestions regarding the barn area at the shelter that were proposed to Mr. Deatruck.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Standing Committee Reports

Subcommittee reports to follow.

B. Legislative / Animal Control Regulations

No report

C. By-Laws

No report

D. Animal Shelter

Rita Weaver discussed that in their March 2nd meeting they were starting to reach out to other counties throughout the state for pros and cons of having all county employees, all contract employees or a mixture of both. They will bring this information back to the board for the May meeting. The shelter subcommittee is also starting to compile a list of thoughts and ideas that they would like to see in the shelter. They will prioritize the list of items for submission.

E. Public Education

No report

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. 2019 Annual Report

I move to approve the 2019 Annual Report for the Animal Control Advisory Board as presented.

Motion by Melissa Carnes, second by Dr David Langford.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Drema Ballengee-Grunst, Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Dr David Langford, Susan Morris, Dr Pat Richardson

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Animal Warden Title Change

I move to endorse the change of job title of "Animal Warden" to "Animal Control Officer" and forward to the Director of Emergency Services for appropriate action.

Motion by Dr David Langford, second by Rita Weaver.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Drema Ballengee-Grunst, Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Dr David Langford, Susan Morris, Dr Pat Richardson

7. BOARD MEMBERS TIME

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

9. ADJOURN

A. Motion to Adjourn

I move to adjourn the meeting at 1918.

Motion by Rita Weaver, second by Melinda Brown.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Yea: Drema Ballengee-Grunst, Rita Weaver, Melissa Carnes, Melinda Brown, Susan Morris, Dr Pat Richardson

Not Present at Vote: Dr David Langford

Angelique Clem, recorder

Minutes approved by the Animal Control Advisory Board on July 1, 2020